

The national emergency declared with respect to Sierra Leone on January 18, 2001, as expanded on May 22, 2001, with respect to Liberia, has not been resolved. The national emergency, as expanded, was declared to deal with the threat posed to United States foreign policy by (1) the insurgent Revolutionary United Front's (RUF) illicit trade in diamonds to fund its operations and procurement of weapons in the brutal, decade-long civil war in Sierra Leone; (2) the RUF's flagrant violation of the Lome' Peace Agreement of July 7, 1999; (3) the RUF's attacks on personnel of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone; and (4) the actions of the Government of Liberia in support of the RUF. These actions and policies are hostile to U.S. interests and pose a continuing, unusual, and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Sierra Leone and Liberia and to maintain in force the sanctions imposed in response to the threat posed by the actions and policies of the RUF.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 17.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on the National Emergency With Respect to Sierra Leone and Liberia

January 15, 2002

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Sierra Leone and Liberia that was declared in Executive Order 13194, of Janu-

ary 18, 2001, and expanded in scope in Executive Order 13213, of May 22, 2001.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 17.

**Executive Order 13253—
Amendment to Executive Order 13223, Ordering the Ready Reserve of the Armed Forces to Active Duty and Delegating Certain Authorities to the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Transportation**

January 16, 2002

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*) and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, and in furtherance of Proclamation 7463 of September 14, 2001, Declaration of National Emergency by Reason of Certain Terrorist Attacks, which declared a national emergency by reason of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, New York, New York, and the Pentagon, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on the United States, and in order to provide the Secretary of Transportation, with respect to the Coast Guard, with the authority to manage personnel requirements in a manner consistent with the authorization provided to the Secretary of Defense in Executive Order 13223 of September 14, 2001, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Section 5 of Executive Order 13223 is amended by adding at the end: "The Secretary of Transportation is further designated and empowered, without the approval, ratification or any other action by the President, to exercise the authority vested in the President by sections 123 and 123a of title 10, United States Code, and sections 149 (detail members to assist foreign governments), 275(a) (suspension of provisions on

selection, promotion, or involuntary separation of officers), and 722 (administration of reserve forces) of title 14, United States Code, as invoked by section 2 of Executive Order 13223.”

Sec. 2. Section 7 of Executive Order 13223 is deleted and revised to read as follows: “Based upon my determination under 10 U.S.C. 2201(c) that it is necessary to increase (subject to limits imposed by law) the number of members of the armed forces on active duty for the Department of Defense beyond the number for which funds are provided in the appropriation Act for the Department of Defense, which, by virtue of 14 U.S.C. 652, applies to the Department of Transportation with respect to the Coast Guard, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Transportation may provide for the cost of such additional members under their respective jurisdictions as an excepted expense under section 11(a) of title 41, United States Code.”

George W. Bush

The White House,
January 16, 2002.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:43 a.m., January 17, 2002]

NOTE: This Executive order was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 17, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on January 18.

Remarks in a Meeting With Labor Leaders

January 17, 2002

Thank you all. Let me just be to the point: A good energy plan is important for our national security, and it's important for job security. Around the table, I'm honored to be sitting with people who represent thousands of working people. And they asked the same question I asked: What can the Federal Government do to help people find work; what can we do to create jobs?

And this energy bill that we're working on is a jobs bill. And when we explore for power—U.S. power—U.S. energy in ANWR, we're not only helping us become less dependent on foreign sources of crude oil and

foreign sources of energy, we're creating jobs for American workers—jobs so that men and women can put food on the table.

That's the question these two leaders ask all the time, “How best can I help the members of my union find work? What can I do to make them, you know, be able to feed their families?” It's the same question I ask. And that's why we're linked up on this issue. We've got Republicans sitting around this table; we've got Democrats sitting around this table; we've probably got some people who don't care about politics sitting around the table. But all of us know that the energy bill that's now stuck in the Senate, that can't get voted on in the Senate, will be good for America. It will be good for our foreign policy, good for our national security, and more importantly, it will be good for jobs.

And so I want to thank you, Jimmy, for your leadership. And Doug, thank you very much. I appreciate you all working with us. I appreciate members of my Cabinet for coming. Together, we can show the country that when we work together, we can do what's right—do what's right for the working folks.

And so I'm honored you would let me come by. It's a privilege to be around this table. There's no telling what kind of conversations have gone on around this table. [Laughter] But it is a huge honor. Thank you, sir. Doug, thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:11 p.m. in the boardroom at the International Brotherhood of Teamsters headquarters building. In his remarks, he referred to James P. Hoffa, general president, International Brotherhood of Teamsters; and Douglas J. McCarron, general president, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks on Signing the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Amendments of 2001

January 17, 2002

Thank you all. Please be seated. Well, thanks, Laura. I appreciate those kind words, and I love you a lot.